

Appl. No. : **10/762,117**
Filed : **January 20, 2004**

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed March 16, 2005, Applicant has amended the application as above. Claims 2, 6, 9 and 11 have been cancelled, without prejudice. Claims 1, 5, 8 and 10 have been rewritten to incorporate the features of original Claims 2, 6, 9 and 11, respectively. Upon the entry of the amendments, Claims 1, 3-5, 7-8, 10, and 12-13 are pending in this application. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments and the remarks set forth below.

Discussion of Specification Objections

The Examiner has objected to the disclosure because of some informalities. In reply, Applicant has amended the corresponding portions of the disclosure as suggested by the Examiner as reflected in the "Amendments to the Specification" section. Withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

Discussion of Drawing Objections

The Examiner objected to the drawings asserting that Figures 1a-1d, and 2a-2c should be designated by a legend such as – Prior Art – because only that which is old is illustrated. In reply, Applicant has labeled Figures 1a-1d and 2a-2c accordingly.

The Examiner also objected to the drawings asserting that various figures are too small to read the reference numerals and understand critical features. In reply, Applicant submits herewith a set of formal drawings that overcome the objections. Withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

Discussion of Patentability of Pending Claims

Claims 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12 and 13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Baskin (U.S. Patent No. 1,378,758). Claims 2, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 11 have been indicated to be allowable, if rewritten in independent form, over the prior art of record, by the Examiner.

In order to expedite the prosecution of the application, as discussed above, independent Claims 1, 5, 8 and 10 have been amended to incorporate all of the features of Claims 2, 6, 9 and

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11, respectively, indicated to be allowable. Thus, independent Claims 1, 5, 8 and 10, as amended, are allowable over the prior art of record. However, Applicant reserves the right to argue patentability of original Claims 1, 5, 8 and 10 in another patent application which may be filed at a later date.

Claims 3-4, 7 and 12-13 depend from base Claims 1, 5 or 10, and further define additional technical features of the present invention. In view of the patentability of their base claims, and in further view of the additional technical features, Applicant respectfully submits that the dependent claims are patentable over the prior art of record.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any remaining concerns which might prevent the prompt allowance of the application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the indicated telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: _____

9/15/05

By: _____

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 1-10. Each of the attached sheets, which have been conformed to U.S. practice, replaces each of the original sheets.

Attachment: Replacement sheets